

## SENATE BILL 210: Authorize Chief Magistrates

## 2013-2014 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Judiciary I Date: May 13, 2013
Introduced by: Sens. Parmon, Brunstetter Prepared by: Bill Patterson

Analysis of: First Edition Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: Senate Bill 210 would authorize a chief district court judge to designate a full time magistrate to serve as chief magistrate for that county for an indefinite time at the judge's pleasure to carry out certain responsibilities as delegated by the chief district judge.

**CURRENT LAW:** Pursuant to G.S. 7A-146, the chief district judge is given administrative supervision and authority over the operation of the district courts and magistrates in the judge's district, including the assignment of matters to magistrates and prescribing the times and places at which magistrates shall be available to perform their duties.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Senate Bill 210 would amend Chapter 7A of the General Statutes to authorize the chief district judge to designate a full time magistrate in a county to serve as chief magistrate for that county for an indefinite term and at the judge's pleasure, if the chief district judge finds that such a designation would be in the interest of justice.

The chief magistrate would have the same administrative authority as the chief district judge to assign matters to magistrates and to prescribe times and places at which the magistrates shall be available for the performance of their duties.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act is effective when it becomes law.

